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September 14, 2011

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: **AB 212 (Beall) – REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE**

Dear Governor Brown:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support AB 212 which would provide technical clean-up to AB 12, chaptered in 2010. AB 212 would ensure that the terms related to the extension of foster care are used consistently throughout the Welfare and Institutions Code. The bill would also restore the high school completion rule for certain Kin-GAP recipients that was inadvertently deleted in AB 12.

AB 212 focuses on implementing KinGAP eligibility for young adults up to age 21 and streamlining the assessment portion of the legal guardianship and adoptions process. Additionally, AB 212 would allow for federally mandated criminal background checks for staff and volunteers in the new foster care placement created under last year's AB 12: THP-Plus Foster Care.

The county continues to strongly support all efforts to obtain additional funding and flexibility at both the state and federal levels to provide robust transitional services for foster youth such as housing, employment services, and increased access to aid. The county also supports ongoing services for former and emancipated foster youth to help ensure the future success of this vulnerable population.

For these reasons, the County of San Bernardino joins with the California State Association of Counties in supporting AB 212 and thereby respectfully requests your signature on the bill. If you have any questions, please contact Josh Candelaria, Deputy Legislative Director at (909) 387-4280.

Sincerely,

JOSIE GONZALES, CHAIR
Board of Supervisors

The mission of the government of the County of San Bernardino is to satisfy its customers by providing service that promotes the health, safety, well being, and quality of life of its residents according to the County Charter, general laws, and the will of the people it serves.